

**File Code:** 5100-3

**Date:** December 12, 2013

**Subject:** Avalanche Refresher Completion Memo

**To:** Local / Agency Training Representatives

The following individuals successfully completed a four hour Avalanche Safety Awareness Refresher on December 12, 2013 hosted by the Boise NF, Lowman Ranger District at the Garden Valley Work Center in Garden Valley, Idaho.

**Sawtooth NF**

S. Jade Sumsion

**Lowman RD**

Zach Poff

Paul Swenson

Rebecca Swenson

**Emmett RD**

\*Becky Cooper

**Idaho City RD**

Dean Hickman

\*=Not in IQCS

Instructors were Avalanche Forecasters from the Idaho Department of Transportation. Course Coordinator was *Paul Swenson* (ID-BOF) [paswenson@fs.fed.us](mailto:paswenson@fs.fed.us) (208) 259-3361.

Topics covered during this workshop included:

- Understand key decision making concepts and how these affect your risk
- Emphasized development of specific skills to enhance backcountry avalanche awareness and safety
- Terrain evaluation, mountain weather, snowpack observation and the latest search techniques
- Weather and Climate Expectations and Trends
- Field exercise

This workshop meets purpose of maintaining requirements within the FSH 6709.11 Health and Safety Code Handbook:

Chapter 13.4 Snowmobiles “*Employees shall be trained in emergency survival, avalanche hazard recognition, and where needed, avalanche control.*”

Chapter 22.52 Snow Surveys “*Qualifications. In addition to having the training and certifications listed in section 22.07, employees shall receive training in or be familiar with the following topics when applicable...Avalanche hazard recognition.*”

Federal students were awarded the external training competency in IQCS. In addition, this completion memo will serve as supporting documentation; no certificates of completion have been issued.